

WAREHOUSE

Student Ministry

Parent Information Packet

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Warehouse Student Ministry

Warehouse Student Ministry is for all students in 6th-12th grade. We provide weekly events: on Sunday night, we have That Thing from 4:30-6:30, and on Wednesday night, we have Youth Group from 6:00-8:00. We also have several special themed events, retreats, camps, etc., throughout the year to connect students with the gospel, in community, and to discipleship.

As we strive to cultivate a sticky faith in our students' lives, we believe the most effective approach is to view every facet of Warehouse Student Ministry through our mission statement and 5 Pillars of Student Ministry.

Mission Statement

Warehouse Student Ministry exists to connect our students to the Gospel, in Community, and to Discipleship.

5 Pillars of Youth Ministry:

Gospel Centrality

All facets of our student ministry are rooted in the rich soil and built upon the firm foundation of the Gospel. We want students to understand the depth of their sin, their need for grace, and the good news of what God has done for them through the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel is not simply the doorway into the Christian life—it is the rich soil and firm foundation for all of life.

Theological Depth

We want students to develop deep theological roots that produce a strong biblical worldview. We teach students to know what they believe, why they believe it, and how it shapes the way they see and live in the world. Through expository biblical teaching, study, and discussion, we strive to equip students to understand and apply God's Word, not only in school now, but beyond their middle and high school years.

Relational Discipleship

We pursue discipleship through genuine, caring, intentional, and lasting relationships. Rather than simply teaching students from a shallow distance, we come alongside them as they navigate life, helping them understand what it means to trust in and follow Jesus in the everyday realities they face.

Partnerships with Parents

We don't replace parents in discipleship; we partner with them. We recognize parents as the primary spiritual influence and discipler in the lives of their students, and seek to engage, equip, and empower them to help disciple their children. We come alongside parents to create a partnership between the home and the church that encourages lasting sticky faith in the lives of their children.

Intergenerational Integration

We don't want students simply connected to youth group; we want them connected to the Church. We believe students are not merely the future of the Church—they are part of the Church now. We intentionally connect students to the entire body of Christ rather than isolating them within student ministry, creating meaningful relationships with believers across generations who can know, love, encourage, and disciple them.

Student Check-in

Our students check in when they arrive at any of our events via our Breeze online check-in system. This system helps us keep track of who is there and who is not, keep contact information up to date, meet new students, and collect contact information for new students.

Wednesday Night Youth Group

We gather on Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00 in the Warehouse for Youth Group. The evening consists of time to connect with the Gospel, in community, and to discipleship through stage games, teaching, and breakout groups for discussion and prayer.

Our focus on Wednesday nights is to provide an environment where students feel welcomed, included, and loved so they can connect with the community here. At Youth Group, we strive to create an environment where students feel comfortable being themselves, inviting friends, and asking open and honest questions as they discover and develop their faith. We break up into two groups for our teaching time, high school and middle school, in order to cultivate a teaching environment and group time individually catered to the students' ages, circumstances, and experiences. Our Warehouse Staff and Warehouse Volunteers lead the breakout groups, a time of questions geared toward life application from our lesson and prayer. Our Warehouse Staff and Volunteers are committed to accomplishing our third Pillar of Warehouse Student Ministry, *Relational Discipleship*. We aim to build genuine, caring, and lasting relationships with our students as we walk with them through life.

Sunday Night That Thing

We gather on Sunday nights from 4:30-6:30 in the Warehouse for That Thing! That Thing is designed for all 6th-12th grade students to connect with the Gospel, in community, and to discipleship through our small-group Bible studies.

We inspire students to understand the importance of the second pillar of our Five Pillars of Youth Ministry, *Theological Depth*, by studying the importance of the context, the 'why' behind, and the application of Scripture through small-group discussion questions. Our students are split up into six small groups: 12th/11th and 10th/9th boys and girls, and Middle School boys and girls. Students are encouraged to invite their friends to join them to meet others and dive deeper into a community of faith.

Invite Night

Invite Night takes place on one Wednesday night each semester. For this event, we encourage our students to invite their friends from school to church. It is a themed night for students to dress up and includes food, inflatables, and plenty of games. It is an excellent way for our students to introduce their friends who are unchurched or unfamiliar with church to a more relaxed event and to get visitors who would not normally come to Pinewood plugged in. This is an excellent time for our students to spend connecting with each other. This will be the same time as regular Wednesday Night Youth Group, from 6:00-8:00.

Major Holiday Events

We do three major holiday events each year: Halloween Bash, Thanksgiving Feast, and Christmas Party. Each year, these events are themed and have prizes for the best costumes or themed outfits. We advertise the theme a month before each event. We ask that whatever costume a student wears is appropriate for church settings; if a student has any questions about whether a costume is suitable, please have them ask in advance.

Guys Night

This is an awesome night where our guys can hang out and be guys. Guys Night is led by our male Warehouse Staff and Volunteers. We spend the night playing games, eating, and spending time in small groups and in God's Word. It is a great way to escape the world's distractions for the night and grow in faith and relationships.

Girls Night

This is an awesome night where our girls get to hang out. Girls' Night is led by our female Warehouse Staff and Volunteers. We spend time fellowshiping through karaoke, games, arts and crafts, food, and spending time in small groups and in God's Word. It is a great way to escape the world's distractions for the night and grow in faith and relationships.

Senior Night

We take time at the end of each year to celebrate our seniors. This event is for the seniors and their families only. We have a catered dinner, a senior video, senior tables put together by the seniors' families (made up of pictures, awards, items from their favorite hobbies, etc.), and a charge given by our Lead Pastor. (ALL seniors are allowed to stay involved with youth activities through the end of the summer following graduation)

Student Band/Tech Team

We are grateful to have students who desire a band and tech team, and the resources to provide this opportunity here at Pinewood! Each student who participates in the band/tech team must be in at least 9th grade. This is an excellent way for our High School Students to use the talents that God has given them to lead their peers in worship and song.

High School Retreat

The High School Retreat is a great way for our students to escape distractions and enjoy fellowship, teaching sessions, devotionals, time in prayer, lots of food, games, and more. We focus on creating a long weekend of intentional time connecting with each other and God's Word. We communicate all costs and retreat information at least three months out.

Middle School Retreat

The Middle School Retreat is always an excellent weekend for our middle school students as we head down to Southwind Young Life Camp in Ocklawaha, FL. The weekend is filled with games, swimming, kayaking, an Amazing Race competition, worship, teaching, and church family time. We are with students from several other PCA Churches for the weekend. We communicate all costs and retreat information at least three months out.

Transportation

We provide transportation for all of our out-of-town/overnight events. For all other events, parents are responsible for giving or arranging a ride for their student. We have a strict transportation policy concerning male and female drivers. If we drive personal cars rather than a charter bus/15-passenger van, male leaders will only drive male students, and female leaders will only drive female students. If a situation arises where a leader needs to drive male and female students in their personal vehicle, we will either communicate with the group going or contact the parents of those students to get approval.

Trip/Event costs

Each out-of-town/overnight trip is covered by the trip cost, except for a meal on the way to and back from the trip. Students are expected to have money for those meals and any extra snacks or merchandise they want to purchase on a trip. Any event that has a cost will be advertised; otherwise, there is no cost.

Camps and retreats require a \$100 non-refundable deposit upon registration. The remaining balance is due and becomes non-refundable within the last two weeks before the trip.

Student Scholarship Fund

This fund is for families who may need some additional financial assistance to send their students to the High/Middle School Retreat/Camp. Scholarships awarded from the fund are based on need and are given at the discretion of the Warehouse Staff. In most cases, students receive either a half or full scholarship. A scholarship application must be filled out by the parent/guardian of any student requesting a scholarship. Contact Derek with any questions about the scholarship program.

Summer Camp

During the summer, our Middle School and High School students each have a camp they can attend. Our High School Camp is *typically* the second week of June and at Ridge Haven in Brevard, NC. Middle School Camp is *typically* the second or third week of July and at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, FL. Southland plans both camps, like Middle School Retreat. Southland is an organization comprised of PCA Youth Pastors, several Directors of Students, and other leaders within the PCA.

Students will attend camp based on the grade they just finished, except for 8th grade students. They will attend High School camp. Attending High School camp is a great way to start building community for the fall.

Chaperones

Chaperones for our trips are made up of Warehouse Staff and Warehouse Volunteers.

Questions

For any questions, you can contact me via email at derek@pinewoodchurch.org